

# News Release

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **RPU mourns death of employee in traffic accident**

**RIVERSIDE, Calif.** – A Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) employee, his wife and son were killed in a fatal traffic accident this weekend.

Michael Asam, 41, a power line technician, his wife Shannon, 40, and their 14-year-old son, Brennon, were killed early Sunday morning in a collision on I-210 near Altadena, Calif. Two other children, ages 11 and 9, survived the accident and are in the care of family.

“It is nearly impossible to express our sadness to the extended Asam family and the two surviving children, or to even comprehend this tragedy,” said RPU General Manager David Wright. “Please keep the family in your thoughts and prayers.”

Asam had been with RPU since 2003. He was employed before by the city’s parks, recreation and community services department since 1994.

“Mike was the epitome of a great co-worker and a friend,” said Stan Stosel of International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local 47. “This is a loss to the electrical workers family as well as to the city. We’re very concerned for the surviving children.”

Funeral arrangements have not been announced yet.

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Established in 1895, Riverside Public Utilities is a consumer-owned water and electric utility governed by a board of nine community volunteers that provides high quality, reliable services to over 107,000 metered electric customers and 63,400 metered water customers throughout the City of Riverside. The Utility is committed to increased use of renewable energy resources and sustainable living practices that help reduce environmental impacts within the City of Riverside and the state of California.

[www.RiversidePublicUtilities.com](http://www.RiversidePublicUtilities.com)

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